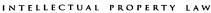
250 East Wisconsin Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53202

PHONE: 414.225.9755 FAX: 414.225.9753

E-MAIL: MAIL@BOYLEFRED.COM





MARY E. EBERLE DIRECT DIAL: 414-225-1665 MEE@BOYLEFRED.COM

July 22, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Express Mail EV 313038952 US

Re: Nonprovisional Utility Patent Application

Inventors: Thomas G. Rehberger and Charles V. Maxwell

Title: Lactobacillus Strains and Uses Therefor

Priority: U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/397,654; Filed July 22, 2002

Small Entity Status Claimed Customer Account No.: 23598 Attorney Docket No.: 362.017

Dear Sir:

Please find enclosed a new utility nonprovisional application that claims priority in the above-identified U.S. provisional application. This nonprovisional application includes 35 sheets of specification, 39 claims on 6 sheets, an Abstract, 10 sheets of drawings (Figs. 1-12), and an unexecuted Declaration. The filing fee and the executed Declaration and Assignment documents will be filed at a later date.

Authorization is given to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1170.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E/Eberle

Registration No. 43,599

MEE:ds

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

Express Mail Label No.: EV 313038952 US

Date of Deposit: July 22, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Mary H. Eberle